

I am opposed to BellSouth's petition. I use an independent Internet Service Provider that provides DSL service at competitive pricing and with superior service compared to my local SBC DSL. I am concerned that BellSouth's petition will cause the independent ISPs to go out of business, which will lead to decreased service and increased costs. The independent providers are an alternative to Cable broadband internet access as well as an alternative to the Baby Bells. They are a small but important part of the market dynamic that gives consumers choice plus fair pricing.

Calbe companies do not cater to "power users" like myself who require more features from their Internet connection. Some of the Baby Bells do offer these features, but at increased pricing. My local independent ISP offers a variety of features that allow their customers to select distinct services from a large menu. I will lose this capability if I am forced to go to SBC or to Comcast for my internet connectivity. This will affect my personal and my business access to the Internet, as I often work from my house.